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BOOK REVIEWS.

REPORTS OF THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION. Volume XXXII. A Reprint of an Essay on Professional Ethics. By Hon. George Sharswood. Philadelphia. T. & J. W. Johnson Company. 1907. Pp. 193.

No more striking mark of appreciation of intrinsic worth of a legal treatise can be conceived of than its republication by the American Bar Association fifty-four years after the date of its original appearance, and when, in addition to this unique tribute is added the further fact that this republication is made with the clear purpose of stimulating in the bar of this country a true realization of the high standard of ethics which the profession must maintain in public and in private life, it is indeed more than a renewed recognition of the value of the book, it is rather a worthy memorial of the influence for good of one of the noblest leaders of the legal profession. In honoring Chief Justice Sharswood by the reprinting of his well-known work on "Professional Ethics," the American Bar Association has taken a wise method of advancing the work of its committee on a code relating to that subject. No member of the association can read the vigorous work of Justice Sharswood without feeling a quickened determination to aid in preventing the practice of the law from becoming a mere branch of commerce. No one can study the discriminating discussion of the relations between the attorney, the court and the client without again realizing the manifold and delicate obligations which rest upon every counsellor. Consider for a moment the scrupulous nicety which the author (p. 111) displays in analyzing the duty of a lawyer in preparing an affidavit. Examine the earnest plea he makes (p. 69) for a strict upholding of the relative responsibilities of the court and the jury. Compare these thoughts with the every day practice in these matters and the need and the value of the republication of this legal classic are at once apparent.

R. D. J.